

Canada Weekly

Volume 3, No. 26

June 25, 1975



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Canada celebrates its one hundredth and eighth birthday

On July 1, Canada will be a hundred and eight years old. In that time, a short period compared to the age of some nations, Canada grew from four small provinces, huddled northeast of the United States, to ten provinces and two territories stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific to the Arctic, with the longest coast-line in the world. Since Confederation in 1867, Canada's population grew from 3.5 million to more than 22.5 million in 1975. With two official languages and predominant cultures, English and French, Canada nevertheless encourages its many other ethnic groups to maintain their heritage to further add diversity and enrich the Canadian mosaic. One of Canada's goals is to be a multicultural nation, with the depth and richness of many countries.

Over the years Canada has established a reputation for the design, development and manufacture of aircraft, including trainers, transports, short take-off and landing (STOL) craft and fire-fighting airplanes. Sturdy planes, suitable for flying from almost inaccessible airfields, have been developed to meet Canadian and world needs. Production value in 1974 was about \$700 million, of which almost \$500-mil-

lion worth was exported.

In space technology, Canada was the third nation after the United States and the U.S.S.R. to launch an operating satellite. The *Alouette* and *ISIS* spacecraft, designed and built in Canada, have added substantially to the world's knowledge of the ionosphere. In communications, the first domestic satellite communications network was established in Canada with the satellite *Anik* (Eskimo for brother).

Today, Canada is not only combating the growing dangers of inflation and population, but is actively engaged in assisting less fortunate nations feed their people and in maintaining peace-keeping forces in areas of unrest. Canada, which recognizes the increasing interdependence of nations, is a strong supporter of international organizations such as the United Nations and its branches, the International Red Cross, and other organizations that seek the betterment of the world.

Multiculturalism
Multiculturalism became a permanent policy of the Government of Canada in 1971. Last year, more than \$10 million was committed to assist in expanding multicultural programs through displays,



Canada's de Havilland DASH 7 short take-off and land (STOL) airliner is the latest in air transport. The 50-passenger STOL plane, the quietest transport craft on record, requires run-

ways of only 2,000 feet (609.6m). Fifteen of these planes have already been sold abroad, Air Alpes of France recently ordered four, and more sales are being negotiated on five continents.